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Nationalist China

- 1. Nationalist Chinese attitudes during the period of this estimate will unquestionably remain pro-Western, and will be virtually uninfluenced by Soviet Blos courses of action within the range of those assumed. The Chinese Nationalists will generally support any measures of an anti-Communist nature.
- The Chinese Nationalists will certainly maintain their armed forces and build them up to the limitations of manpower and equipment. Their attitude on the employment of these forces, however, is problematical. There have been some indications of a growing belief that return to the mainland may be a long way off and of a decline in the attitude that return to the mainland should be pressed even if it means World War III. Among these indications are the increased attention paid to internal reforms and economic projects of a long-term character, and in the external field increased efforts to attract the legalty of overseas Chinese groups in areas of Asia where they could not assist a short—term return to the mainland.
- 3. On the other hand, it is possible that the minimizing of the possibility of World War III may be for tactical reasons only, and as time passes, the Chinese Nationalist sense of urgency may be increasingly affected by the obsolescence of



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